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# PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

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## **VIRULENT SMALLPOX AT AUSTIN, TEX.**

Virulent smallpox has been present in Austin, Tex., since the fourth week in January. Incomplete reports which have been received give a total of 123 cases up to April 21, of which at least 22 had proved fatal. The greatest numbers of cases were reported during the weeks ended April 7 and April 14, when 25 and 22 cases, respectively, were reported.

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## **EPIDEMIC CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS.**

### **CURRENT PREVALENCE.**

For several weeks cerebrospinal meningitis has prevailed to an unusual degree in various sections of the country. The occurrence of the disease in epidemic form at this time is of particular importance. The disease is one which frequently gains entrance to and spreads in encampments of troops.

The principal recognized foci of the disease have been in Philadelphia, Cleveland, St. Louis, Hartford, and Minneapolis. In Minnesota particular attention has been given to the study of the present outbreak by the State department of health, and the information regarding the Minnesota foci is perhaps the most complete. From January 1 to May 2, there occurred in Minneapolis, 103 cases; in St. Paul, 34 cases; and in Duluth, 11 cases. Besides these there were 43 scattered cases throughout the State.

The Philadelphia outbreak has undoubtedly been the largest and most important, and since the first of the year 237 cases have been reported. There have undoubtedly been many unreported cases.

One hundred and sixteen cases have been reported in New York City, but when the population of New York is taken into consideration this number is small compared with many of the municipalities enumerated in the following table, which shows the number of cases reported in the various cities since the first of the year.

*Number of cases of epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis reported from Jan. 1 to Apr. 21, 1917, in certain cities.*

Akron, Ohio.....	17	Nashville, Tenn.....	1
Alameda, Cal.....	1	Newark, N. J.....	11
Atlantic City, N. J.....	1	New Bedford, Mass.....	2
Austin, Tex.....	3	New Britain, Conn.....	5
Baltimore, Md.....	30	New Castle, Pa.....	1
Binghamton, N. Y.....	5	New Haven, Conn.....	11
Birmingham, Ala.....	7	New Orleans, La.....	3
Boston, Mass.....	20	Newport, Ky.....	1
Bridgeport, Conn.....	8	New York, N. Y.....	116
Buffalo, N. Y.....	8	Norristown, Pa.....	2
Butler, Pa.....	1	Northampton, Mass.....	1
Camden, N. J.....	2	Oakland, Cal.....	1
Chicago, Ill.....	51	Omaha, Nebr.....	22
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	9	Orange, N. J.....	4
Cleveland, Ohio.....	64	Pawtucket, R. I.....	1
Coffeyville, Kans.....	1	Philadelphia, Pa.....	237
Columbus, Ohio.....	6	Pittsburgh, Pa.....	45
Dayton, Ohio.....	3	Pittsfield, Mass.....	2
Detroit, Mich.....	35	Portsmouth, Va.....	3
Dubuque, Iowa.....	5	Providence, R. I.....	19
Duluth, Minn.....	11	Quincy, Ill.....	1
Elizabeth, N. J.....	3	Reading, Pa.....	1
El Paso, Tex.....	6	Rochester, N. Y.....	1
Evansville, Ind.....	2	Saginaw, Mich.....	1
Fall River, Mass.....	3	St. Joseph, Mo.....	7
Fort Worth, Tex.....	1	St. Louis, Mo.....	79
Harrisburg, Pa.....	1	St. Paul, Minn.....	134
Hartford, Conn.....	84	Salt Lake City, Utah.....	3
Indianapolis, Ind.....	10	San Francisco, Cal.....	5
Jackson, Mich.....	2	San Jose, Cal.....	1
Kansas City, Kans.....	13	Schenectady, N. Y.....	2
Kansas City, Mo.....	26	Sioux City, Iowa.....	2
Lincoln, Nebr.....	3	Springfield, Mass.....	1
Los Angeles, Cal.....	6	Steuernville, Ohio.....	1
Lowell, Mass.....	3	Toledo, Ohio.....	5
Lynn, Mass.....	2	Trenton, N. J.....	1
Manchester, N. H.....	3	Washington, D. C.....	11
Medford, Mass.....	1	Wichita, Kans.....	1
McKeesport, Pa.....	1	Wilmington, Del.....	6
Milwaukee, Wis.....	14	Worcester, Mass.....	1
Minneapolis, Minn.....	1103	York, Pa.....	2
Montclair, N. J.....	24		

## DIPHTHERIA.

### PREVALENCE IN CITIES DURING 1916.<sup>3</sup>

The table which follows shows the recorded prevalence of diphtheria during the year 1916 in cities of the United States having over 100,000 population. The cities have been divided into groups according to their population and arranged in each group in the order of the prevalence of the disease as indicated by the recorded cases. Data are given for all the cities of the United States having an estimated population of 100,000 or over as of July 1, 1916, with the exception of Cambridge, Mass., and Memphis, Tenn.

<sup>1</sup> To May 2, 1917.

<sup>2</sup> To April 28, 1917.

<sup>3</sup> The data in the table are taken from the article "The Notifiable Diseases—Prevalence during 1916 in cities of over 100,000," Pub. Health Repts, Apr. 27, 1917, pp. 595-607.